Petitioner's Narrative

We intend to purchase 303 E 161st St in Westfield, Indiana and start a vineyard and winery. As a result, this request is to allow a Special Exception for an Agritourism Use and related Variances of Development Standard to accommodate our proposed use. The Agritourism Use will include a vineyard (4.5 acres +/-) and 4,000 sq. ft. +/- building. The building is proposed to include wine processing (i.e. grape crushing, fermenting, aging, storage) and related sales (i.e. retail, tasting facilities).

The requested Variances of Development Standard include:

- 1. Landscaping Standards (Article 6.8).
 - Petitioner requests that the following landscaping standards not apply to the property: Minimum Lot Landscaping Requirements (Article 6.8(K)); External Street Frontage Landscaping Requirements (Article 6.8(M)); Buffer Yard Requirements (Article 6.8(N)); Interior Parking Area Landscaping (Article 6.8(O)(1)). (. The property is proposed to consist of over 2,000 grape vines that will span the entire area of property. The grape vines will require full sun and air circulation for viability, and the property will otherwise include the required foundation plantings and perimeter parking area landscaping required by the UDO.
- 2. Screening of Receptacles and Loading Areas (Article 6.1). Petitioner requests that Article 6.1 (H) shall not apply to the property; rather, screening will be provided in accordance with Article 6.8(H)(2) with landscaping.
- 3. Off-street Parking Surfacing and Curbs (Article 6.14). Petitioner requests that the standards of Article 6.14(G)(7) (Off-street Parking Surfacing and Curbs) not apply to the property; rather, a gravel driveway and parking surface is proposed to better allow for storm water management for the grape vines. Petitioner agrees to work with the City and County to ensure adequate surface design, parking space delineation, and maintenance is being provided (e.g., for storm water management, traffic circulation and management, and emergency equipment access).
- 4. Architectural Standards (Article 6.3). Petitioner requests that the standards of Article 6.3 (Architectural Standards) not apply to the property; rather, to enhance and contribute to the desired agricultural theming of the proposed use and surrounding properties, the petitioner agrees that buildings on the property shall be substantially similar in quality and character to the illustrative building exhibits attached hereto.

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